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SURVEY OF AGRICULTURAL CRITICISM IN
 THE BULGARIAN PRESS, JULY - AUGUST 1952

Comment and summary: The following report is based on Bulgarian newspaper articles criticizing agricultural progress in general by okrugs, and irrigation in particular. All articles are taken from 1 July - 28 August 1952 issues of Rabotnichesko Delo, except one, which appeared in Vecherni Novini on 13 August 1952. It is interesting to note that these criticisms generally appeared on the third page, while articles praising agricultural progress appeared on the front page. In most instances, the front-page praise appeared on the same day as the third-page criticisms. As this report concentrates only on the criticisms and ignores the praise, it cannot be considered a full picture of the agricultural situation as treated in Rabotnichesko Delo during July and August.

The appended map shows that criticism of agriculture was scattered throughout the country. Despite this fact, some okrugs did fulfill their plans for state grain deliveries of wheat, rice, barley, oats, spelt, and vetch by 3 September 1952, according to an article in Vecherni Novini of 4 September 1952, which stated that the Council of Ministers had announced free trade in the above-mentioned crops in Khaskovo, Vratsa, Turnovo, Plovdiv, and Stara Zagora okrugs. Nevertheless, the report suggests that difficulties arose in connection with planting, harvesting, threshing, state grain deliveries, and irrigation even in these okrugs.

The criticism is aimed at officials and members of TKZS (trudovo kooperativno zemedelsko stopanstvo, farm workers' cooperatives), MTS (mashinno-traktorna stantsiya, machine tractor stations), OK na BKP (okoliyski komitet na bulgarska kommunisticheska partiya, okoliya committees of the Bulgarian Communist Party), and okrug and okoliya NSDT (narodni suvet na deputatite na trudeshtite se, people's soviets of workers' deputies). More specifically, the TKZS did not have their work well organized, and rarely was available machinery fully

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utilized because of poor repair work by MTS, because of lack of hourly schedules for 24-hour work, or because of antimechanization tendencies among TKZS members.

MTS were reproved sharply for poor repair work of agricultural machines, careless field work, and failure to fulfill contracts. OK na BKP and okoliya NSDT were mentioned at the end of many articles as being lax in supporting TKZS, in exercising control over MTS, and in conducting political agitation.

While the first part of this report deals with agricultural criticism in general, the second part deals with inadequate irrigation, which has also been noted on the appended map. The map also includes references to the drought (24 July, 23 August, and 28 August 1952). In addition to the places specified in the report and on the map, the drought was also mentioned as having occurred in Lovech (Otechestven Front, 7 September 1952), in Razlog and Popovo (Otechestven Front, 13 September 1952), in Sofia Okoliya (Otechestven Front, 17 September 1952), and in Dobrudzha (Otechestven Front, 30 September 1952).

It should be noted that there is almost a total lack of criticism directed at DZS (durzhavno zemedelsko stopanstvo, state farms), which could indicate that DZS fulfilled their plans satisfactorily in contradistinction to TKZS and MTS.

It is significant to note that the article in Rabotnichesko Delo of 4 August 1952 mentions that kulaks in some okoliyas in Vratsa Okrug are destroying crops and delivering contaminated grain and that this is the same okrug in which some okoliya party leaders were purged in 1951 for permitting agricultural sabotage.

In short, it appears from the sources reviewed that despite plan fulfillments in some okruge, organization of work and implementation of plans in general left much to be desired. The replacement of Nikola Stoilov by Stanko Todorov as Minister of Agriculture, reported on 4 September 1952 in Rabotnichesko Delo, might possibly reflect the poor showing of TKZS and MTS during the summer of 1952.

A map, drawn up on the basis of the agri shortcomings mentioned in this report, is appended.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.

TWO-MONTH CRITICISM OF AGRICULTURE IN GENERAL

Kolarovgrad Okrug

Although in Novi Pazar Okoliya, this summer, 21 combines will increase the yield 14 percent (harvesters and binders will reap 13 percent of the area and the remaining land will be done by hand) and it is predicted that the harvest will take 8 days, the okoliya is not ready for the harvest. In the villages of Yagnilos, Vurbyane, Pet mogili, Todor Ikonovovo, and Khursovo, plans for increasing the harvest have still not been worked out. In cases where plans have been made, they have not been explained to the workers.

The serious lag in digging up spring crops will delay the harvest. The second planting of corn has not begun, and there are some villages where the first harvesting has not been completed. In the villages of Ruzhitsa, Krasen dol, and Pet mogili, the tobacco has still not been planted, although seedlings are available.

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In the low places of the okoliya, the barley is ready to be harvested. Although there are not enough workers for the harvest, there are still antimechanization attitudes in some villages. The chairmen of the TKZS in St Mikhaylovski and Pamuchki were reluctant to reap with combines because they said that the moisture of the barley would hinder drying the grain.

Mechanized harvesting is not popular in the TKZS. In Mirovtsi, the radish seeds were not threshed, although there were threshers available and the TKZS members did not even deliver to the state the 113 tons of radishes gathered by the combines.

The method of rapidly gathering the harvest without loss is poorly organized, contracts are not always made, and progress charts are not sufficiently precise.

Simultaneous reaping, threshing, and surface plowing of stubble fields is not assured in the okoliya. Eight threshers are still not ready for work. Six tractors were recently received from the Tolbukhin factory without washers and separators, and they could not be used for the first few days because these parts are not easily obtainable. Vehicles could not be used because they lacked tires, bolts, and rims.(1)

Despite favorable conditions for livestock raising, the cattle of the TKZS in Turgovishte Okoliya are in poor condition. The TKZS administration and the TKZS party organization have not taken any steps to eliminate watchmen and shepherds who are too old or not strong enough for this work.

Barley harvesting was begun on 2 July, but the brigades had not prepared any harvest plan. Combine harvesting should have been started on 3 July, but the TKZS chairman did not permit it, because there were too few storage places for the grain.

The chairman seldom inspected the farmland and did not meet with TKZS members. He concentrated on administrative work and did not share the problems but assumed the entire responsibility himself.

The Ok na BKP in Turgovishte did not take any steps to correct this situation.(2)

Combines are not being fully utilized in Popovo and Turgovishte okoliiyas. In some villages of Popovo Okoliya, there are antimechanization tendencies. In Sadina, the TKZS members reaped 700 decares of barley by hand. In Opaka, the TKZS members reaped the wheat by hand. In Turgovishte Okoliya, the MTS harvested only 3,000 decares of the 14,000 it contracted to do, and the plan for combines was fulfilled only 6 percent.

Sowing of second crops in Kolarovgrad Okrug is proceeding too slowly. Up to 6 July, the plan for corn in the okrug was fulfilled 7.29 percent and for millet, 7.7 percent.(3)

In Kolarovgrad Okrug, harvesting is ended, and the TKZS members must organize the threshing on a 24-hour basis. Up to now, 50 percent of the threshers in Popovo Okoliya are in operation 24 hours a day. In Preslav Okoliya, threshing has already been fulfilled 33.3 percent. However, in the remaining okoliiyas of the okrug, there are serious weaknesses which are hindering threshing. Up to 30 July, the okrug? plan should have been fulfilled 33 percent, but it had been fulfilled only 26 percent.

In eight villages of Omurtag Okoliya and in many villages of Novi Pazar Okoliya, there were no workers for the second shift, and, therefore, the machines could not work on a 24-hour basis.

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Much of the threshing is hindered because of technical reasons. Ten percent of the okrug threshers are not in use due to damages. In some villages in Preslav Okoliya, the threshers are not working 8-10 hours daily because of a power shortage.

Threshing is lagging the most in Kolarovgrad Okoliya. Only 24 percent of the okoliya plan has been fulfilled because the Kolarovgrad MTS authorities and the ONSDT sent the larger and newer machines to the southern part of the okoliya and the worn-out machinery to the north. In the south, the threshing was completed with combines, and the threshers were not fully used. In the northern part of the okoliya, most of the threshing is done with threshers, but the threshers sent there were in no condition to do the work. The threshers in the southern part of the okoliya are electrified. However, because most of the villages here do not have electricity, new washers had to be attached to them so that they could be moved by tractors.(4)

Plovdiv Okrug

Although the harvesting of barley, rye, and wheat in Plovdiv Okrug was fulfilled by 4 July (91.6 percent for barley, 67 percent for wheat, and 79 percent for rye), only 8.2 81c percent of the ripened area has been harvested.

By 4 July, only 71 of the 325 threshers in the okrug had begun threshing. Only a few threshers, like those in Katunitza in Asenovgrad Okoliya, Perushtitsa and Markovo in Plovdiv Okoliya, and Vetren dol and Zvunichevo in Pazardzhik Okoliya, have been operating on a 24-hour basis. In Pervomay Okoliya, only four of the 28 threshers worked yesterday, and they worked intermittently. In Plovdiv Okoliya, only 11 of the 120 threshers worked. In large grain-producing villages like Golyamo konare, Plovdiv Okoliya machinery is not being used.

The main weakness in the okrug is the lack of organization, as the people's soviets did not work out a good organizational plan for threshing. There was no provision for carting away the sheaves of grain and for organizing the people into threshing brigades. The political divisions of the MTS have failed to establish a time table.

Local executive committees of the people's soviets, party organizations, and OF (Otechestven Front, Fatherland Front) organizations did not explain the use of threshers to private farmers. Local leaders in Manole, Plovdiv Okoliya, allowed threshers to remain idle, and private farmers were threshing grain with flails. Instead of organizing the private farmers, the leaders of the TKZS in Buta and Popintsi, Panagyurishte Okoliya, let their machines remain idle.(5)

Plovdiv Okrug has fulfilled its harvesting plan. According to its schedule, state grain deliveries were to be 100 percent fulfilled by 31 July, but by 24 July, only 55.7 percent was filled.

The reasons for the lag lie in the organization of the work. Of 317 threshers, only 273 worked on 24 July, only 168 threshers worked 24 hours, and only 148 on an hourly schedule. Threshers in the villages of Trud, Markovo, Stryama, Stroevo, Orizari, and Krichim, all in Plovdiv Okoliya, were not operating. Two threshers in Chernogorovo, Pazardzhik Okoliya, and those in Smilets and Buta in Panagyurishte Okoliya, also were inactive. From 18 to 21 July, the threshers in Pravoslaven, Lenovo, Tatареvo, Poroyna, and Dulbok izvor, all in Pervomay Okoliya, were inactive because the workers had gone for their receipts. The TKZS in Tatареvo threshed its barley with scythes instead of using machines sent from the Pervomay MTS. At the Byala TKZS, discipline is so lacking that the cooperative members went to work at 1000 hours and stopped working at 1800 hours because the TKZS chairman did not organize the work on a 24-hour basis and on an hourly schedule.

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In Dulbok izvor, the administrative council of the TKZS did not take measures for transporting the sheaves and did not organize threshing on a 24-hour basis.

The threshing is lagging especially in Karlovo Okoliya, although recently, the speed has increased somewhat. Threshing with machines by private farmers has not been organized, and a large number of farmers are still threshing according to primitive methods. Up to 25 July, in Karlovo Okoliya, 53,685 tons of grain had been threshed by machines, while private farmers had threshed 13,122 tons with flails.

A powerful new thresher from the "Georgi Dimitrov" Factory was in Cheshnegirovo, Asenovgrad Okoliya, for 12 days without being used by a single private farmer. Machine threshing was not practiced in General Nikolaevo, Plovdiv Okoliya, in Khristo Mikhaylovo, Asenovgrad Okoliya, nor in Iskra, Purvomay Okoliya.

While TKZS in Plovdiv Okrug have fulfilled their plan for state grain deliveries 76 percent, private farmers have only delivered 21.1 percent. The transportation of grain to the "Zurneni khрани" (Grain Food), DO (Duvzhavno obedinenie, State Association) has been poorly organized. A 226-ton toll from combines in the okrug and a 1,801-ton toll from threshers has not yet been delivered.

The executive committees of the okrug NSDT and ONSDT, the governing councils and political sections of the MTS, as well as the OK na BKP, must take steps to eliminate the weaknesses in the organization of threshing and must improve state grain deliveries.(6)

Despite the use of combines, threshing in Pazardzhik Okoliya is not being fulfilled on schedule because it has not been well organized.

Some MTS drivers do not know how to operate combines.

The lagging behind of threshing results in a slowing up of state grain deliveries. In general, the okoliya has delivered 70.4 percent of the planned amount. The TKZS have delivered 93.8 percent and the private farmers, 64 percent. In Patalenitsa, state grain deliveries were fulfilled only 10 percent by 26 July. In Velichkovo, only 12 percent of the grain deliveries had been fulfilled by 12 July.(7)

In some TKZS in Purvomay Okoliya, the measures taken for providing forage for livestock over the winter have been insufficient. New pit silos have not been built, and old pit silos have not been cleaned out. Such inadequacies result in lowered cattle production in the okoliya.

Some administrative councils in the okoliya complacently feel that there is enough straw and do not gather straw from areas harvested with combines.(8)

Vratsa Okrug

The Vratsa Okrug MTS plan for harvesting with binders has been fulfilled 36 percent and with combines, 18 percent. The MTS in Metkovets, Lom Okoliya, was the first to fulfill its plan for harvesting with binders. It was followed by the Boychinovtsi MTS, which fulfilled its plan 50 percent. In the villages of Metkovets, Lom, and Vulchedrum, the machines were used for the most part on a 24-hour basis.

In some TKZS, such as in the villages of Metkovets and Ignatievo in Lom Okoliya, Gromshin and Vladimirovo, in Mikhaylovgrad Okoliya, and Krushovitsa in Oryakhovo Okoliya, MTS contracts were violated because some TKZS leaders thought that the corn was still green and refused to allow the tractors into the fields.(5)

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The Oryakhovo MTS sent out all its machines to the villages during June, but because of hasty repair work, not a single TKZS fulfilled its plan. The binders in the Krushovitsa TKZS harvested only 200 decares in 6 days, and up to 5 July, the plan for harvesting with binders was only 40 percent fulfilled.

A combine was sent to Galiche without a grain tank, and it could not be used for several days. Because there was no grain tank on the combine sent to Voyvodovo, 48 people were idle for a whole day. The combine at the Galovo TKZS did not work well, as it was harvesting only 80-100 decares daily on the average.

The administrative council and political organization of the Oryakhovo MTS did not pay enough attention to various problems, such as procuring electric motors for the threshers at the Selanovtsi TKZS. Surface plowing of stubble fields has still not begun in Selanovtsi or Buk'ovtsi.

The Oryakhovo MTS does not have adequate means of transportation to deliver fuel and grease materials for threshing machinery. Since the MTS has insufficient lighting equipment, 24-hour harvesting is impossible.

The ONSDT and the Ok na BKP still have not taken serious measures to correct these weaknesses.(9)

Director Khimov of the Khayredin MTS in Oryakhovo Okoliya and Tomchovski, chief of the political organization, have been criticized for poorly repairing machines. Of 34 threshers, only 16 were in operating condition. The tractors are also in poor condition and five have still not been repaired.

Up to 11 July, the Khayredin MTS plan was fulfilled only 60 percent.

Thus far, only the third TKZS in Butan has completed threshing. The Khayredin MTS performed 24-hour threshing only in Lipnitsa and Butan.

A harmful attitude has developed in the Manastirishte TKZS, where Khinov, TKZS chairman, said that night is for rest.

Because of slow repair work, the Khayredin MTS is not able to help the TKZS with its second sowing. Surface plowing lags behind.(10)

The political organization, and administrative councils of the MTS in Khayredin and Kozloduy, Oryakhovo Okoliya, have not paid attention to anti-mechanization tendencies, which are the cause of many hand-reaped areas. In the Kozloduy TKZS, the combine was idle 4 days because of damage. The Buk'ovitsi TKZS was supposed to have harvested 2,600 decares by 16 July but only harvested 500. Second-crop planting is lagging. Forage-corn planting was only fulfilled 29 percent by 16 July and grain corn, 60 percent. Some chairmen, like Kal'ov of the first TKZS in Buk'ovitsi, who has still not begun plowing, maintained that it was too dry to sow. The TKZS in Oryakhovo has fulfilled its plan for sowing corn only 9 percent.(11)

In Vratsa Okoliya, up to 25 July, 25 percent of the corn and 76 percent of the sunflower crop had been fertilized. Thus far, party and TKZS leaders in Gorna Kremena have not organized any fertilizing.

The work was poorly organized in Ruska byala, where the corn had not been cut in many fields. Cutting of sunflower was poorly organized in Beli izvor, Pudriya, Strupets, and Lilyache, while corn was completely neglected in Pudriya, Okhoden, and Osen.

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In Krivodol, Golyamo babino, Iilyache, and Galatin, cotton was fertilized only once. In Banitsa, the cotton fields were attacked by plant lice, but the authorities were not informed soon enough to do something about it.

The ONSDT and the OK na BKP have not given assistance to local leaders. The rural economy section of the ONSDT was too busy gathering information and failed to frequent to the TKZS and help organize the work correctly.(7)

By 1 August the plan for stage grain deliveries in Vratsa Okrug had been fulfilled 74.2 percent. Because of excellent political agitation, Vidin Okoliya had fulfilled its plan 85.6 percent. However, the "Zurneni khрани" DO did not take the proper measures for receiving and storing grain. Loading and unloading of grain is disorganized at receiving points in Lom, Vidin, and Vratsa okoliyas. The deliveries are not received on time because of a lack of hydrometers. There were losses of grain in many places because of dampness.

Kulaks in some areas of the okrug have tried to destroy their grain or to give contaminated grain as their grain delivery quotas. In Vidin and Mikhaylovgrad okoliyas, kulaks have tried to deliver contaminated wheat. In Mezdra and Rakevo, Vratsa Okoliya, new grain was stored with old, contaminated grain. This happened also in Altimir and Bukovitsi, Oryakhovo Okoliya.

The "Zurneni khрани" DO has been weak in performing its duties and spends most of its time writing reports. Local NSDT and party organizations are not interested in preventing the delivery of contaminated grain.(12)

Preparation for gathering sunflowers with combines is lagging in Vratsa Okrug. Of the 60,000 decarees planned, only 32,000 or 52 percent, were contracted for with MTS. Some TKZS administrative councils refused to conclude contracts with MTS, but, on the other hand, MTS did not do enough explanatory work among TKZS members to show them that harvesting with combines helps to prevent the grain from becoming too ripe. MTS should have also pointed out that combines help to economize on the number of workers.

Of all okoliyas in the okrug, Oryakhovo Okoliya TKZS have made the fewest contracts with MTS. Only 29 percent of the plan for the sunflower harvest has been fulfilled. MTS are lagging in making contracts in Lom, Byala Slatina, Belogradchik, and Vratsa okoliyas.

Putting combines into operating condition is also lagging, for only 50 percent of them were ready for sunflower harvesting by 5 August. The MTS in Kozloduy, Krushovene, Khayredin, and Oryakhovo, all in Oryakhovo Okoliya, are especially slow in preparing combines for harvesting sunflower.

The present state of the work proves that if positive steps are not taken by the OK na EKP, by the Okrug NSDT, and, most important of all, by the administrative councils, political and party organizations of the MTS, and by the administrative councils and party organizations of the TKZS, harvesting will not be completed on schedule.(13)

Pleven Okrug

Although the MTS in Cherven bryag, Lukovit Okoliya, has a contract for combine harvesting of 4,000 decarees, it has harvested only 500. Surface plowing of stubble fields is held up because not enough machines have been sent from the MTS. For example, the Telish TKZS had a contract for 10,000 decarees to be surface plowed, but the MTS did not fulfill its plan. Although the wheat harvesting will be concluded in a few days, the threshing is lagging. Five threshers will thresh in Telish, but the TKZS has not procured trucks to carry the grain earmarked for the MTS to storage places.

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The binders sent to the villages near Cherven bryag hardly ever work because they are poorly repaired, and many TKZS have to harvest by hand. On 5 July there was no fuel for the machines sent to Drashan.(14)

Threshing losses are heavy in Gulyantsi, Nikopol Okoliya; grain is left among the straw; TKZS members are not taking steps to avoid scattering the grain; and drivers do not take good care of their vehicles.(15)

In Pleven Okrug the course for tractor drivers was so poorly organized that after 20 days, the lectures were discontinued because there were no lecturers and course leaders. As a consequence, in the Pleven MTS, Rad Shentov, the director, and Stilyan Mitev, the chief of the political division, were relieved of their duties, and Petko Vurbanov, party secretary, was replaced.(16)

Blagoevgrad Okrug

Surface plowing of stubble fields in Gotse Delchev Okoliya is lagging. The MTS did not procure machines and surface plows for surface plowing. The MTS in Sandanski are to be blamed because the tractors necessary for this plowing were not properly overhauled. The threshers in the fields are already threshing, but the storehouses are not yet ready.(17)

Petrich Okoliya supplies Sofia and other large cities with vegetables, which is its third largest crop after cotton and tobacco. However, the plan for supplying vegetables is lagging. During June, the rayon cooperative store in Petrich delivered to Sofia only 14 percent of the planned quantity of tomatoes, 80 tons too few green beans, and only 30 percent of the planned amount of peas. The quantity planned for Dimitrovo and Stanke Dimitrov also was not supplied.

The director of the rayon cooperative store in Petrich points out that the cold spell in May is responsible for the lack of vegetables. However, the truth is that now there is an abundant supply of vegetables in Petrich and that the Petrich rayon cooperative store has not organized its work well.

At this time, when TKZS members and private farmers in Petrich are busy with the cultivation of cotton and tobacco and with the harvest, the fulfillment of the plan for gathering vegetables depends to a large degree on good leadership and cooperation on the part of the rayon cooperative store.

The plan for picking tomatoes in Chuchuligovo and Kapatovo is lagging, and Stoyan Tanchev, deputy director of the Petrich cooperative store, failed to organize the work. Lyubcho Atanas, chief of supplies in the store, did not take sufficient interest in his work. He visited only Karnalovo, which was the nearest to the city and which was fulfilling its plan, but did not bother with villages like Mikhnevo and Kulata, which were lagging in the vegetable-picking plan. This absence of daily control and assistance by the rayon cooperative store encouraged some TKZS, like those in Marikostinovo and Mikhnevo, to consider only the needs of individual members.

The OK na BKP in Petrich has not concerned itself with vegetable raising and attributes the plan lag to the cold weather in the spring. The OK must have known that large quantities of green beans and peas remained unpicked because the work was not organized beforehand. Up to 11 July, the OK had not commissioned any group to gather facts on vegetable crops in the Okoliya.(18)

Harvesting in the Pirin area is completed. Wheat and barley harvesting has been completed almost throughout Blagoevgrad Okrug: the rye harvest is 90 percent completed and the oat harvest, 58 percent. The plan for surface plowing of stubble fields in the okrug has been fulfilled only 30 percent because local officials, TKZS members, and private farmers underestimated the value of new agricultural methods.

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Threshing in the okrug is lagging; only one third of the sheaves have been threshed. This is because available threshers have not been used. The threshers did not work simultaneously, and some machines from the Sandansk MTS were idle for several days. In Chuchuligovo, Petrich Okoliya, the threshing machine threshed only 13 tons of grain in 9 days. Only four or five threshing machines in the okrug work on an hourly schedule.

Razlog Okoliya is an exception in the fulfillment of grain deliveries, for by 6 August, it had fulfilled its state grain deliveries 102 percent. Petrich and Sandanski okolijas are in last place in the okrug as regards grain deliveries and are also slow in threshing.(19)

Sofia Okrug

The MTS in Elin-Pelin is hindering the harvest in Pirdop Okoliya. Stoyko Georgiev, its director, was supposed to have sent out three tractors, but only one carelessly repaired machine has arrived. The Pirdop electric line is overloaded, and two motorless threshers in Pirdop were idle. Benkovski has a tractor but no threshers.

Those responsible for the harvest in Pirdop have been forced to send to Elin-Pelin and Sofia for tractors and threshers.(9)

Despite the help of Soviet combines, harvesting and threshing in Dimitrovo Okoliya is lagging. In Tsurkva, by 24 July, harvesting was fulfilled only 33 percent and in Meshtitsa, 54 percent.

Threshing is also lagging. It has not been started in Vitanovtsi, Studena, Tsurkva, Krapets, Selishten dol, or Yardzhilovtsi. In these villages, the storage places for the sheaves have not been cleaned out. Threshers sent from the okoliya MTS stand idle in the yards.

The greatest blame lies with the administrative councils of the TKZS, the local people's soviets, and the party organizations of the TKZS. Although operating plans had been prepared, lack of organization of the work kept plans from being fulfilled. Simultaneous harvesting and threshing has not been organized.

Most private farmers who thresh with primitive equipment have not yet begun work.

The chief reason for the lag is the weak leadership and control of the OK na BKP, which is aware of the weaknesses but has done nothing to correct them. Metodi Kharisanov, secretary of the OK na BKP, has not been active. Not one of the available threshers is working on an hourly schedule.(20)

Tuknovo Okrug

Gorna Oryakhovitsa Okoliya is lagging behind its harvest plan. By 11 July, the plan for harvesting corn and rye should have been 67.7 percent fulfilled but was only 43.5 percent fulfilled. Surface plowing of stubble fields was fulfilled only 9 percent instead of 38.6 percent. The okoliya is lagging behind its barley harvesting plan. By 10 July, it should have been fulfilled 22 percent but was fulfilled only 9.1 percent. On 7 July, only 35 of 60 threshers in the okoliya were in use and on 8 July, only 34. By 9 July, only 726 tons of grain was delivered to the state, although 2,950 tons had been harvested. The villages of Vinograd, Lozen, Chapaevo, and Sushitsa have not yet seriously begun harvesting. Stoyan Nikolov, chairman of the Serguyevets TKZS, and I. Ivanov, chairman of the Gorski dolen (near Trumbesh) TKZS, did not try to fulfill their obligations for harvesting, plowing, and making state grain deliveries.

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Once harvesting had begun, there was a shortage of fuel [in the okoliya] which further hindered operations. MTS were careless in their repair work. Although it was possible in Bryagovitsa to harvest on a 24-hour basis, the MTS in Gorna Oryakhovitsa under Yordan Slavov, director, did not send enough gasoline for the machines. In Serguyevets, harvesting was held up for 5 days because the machines sent from the Gorna Oryakhovitsa MTS were in poor condition.

The reasons for the lagging behind of this okoliya are the lack of preparation for the harvest and the weak political agitation.(10)

Cotton crops have been neglected in Pavlikeni Okoliya. In some places, TKZS members did not make trenches in the fields in time to get the moisture which makes the cotton thrive. In many places, the TKZS members irrigate on time, but they use twice as much water as is necessary. No gutters were dug to draw off excess water. Chairmen say that they are busy with other important work, like state grain deliveries.(21)

Burgas Okrug

Up to this date, the TKZS members and private farmers of Karnobat Okoliya have delivered 352 tons of grain to state storehouses. Some TKZS (notably in Asparukhovo, Kozare, and Dragovo) have delayed their threshing because the administrative councils of the TKZS have not made provisions for drying grain and have failed to provide for simultaneous threshing and harvesting.

The Cherven bryag MTS has still not begun harvesting with binders in Ruptsi, Radomirski, or Karlykovo. The planting of second crops is lagging as follows: grain corn, 58 percent; forage corn, 33 percent; sunflowers, 4.2 percent; and millet for seed, 2.2 percent.

The chairman of the Petrevene TKZS does not even believe it necessary to sow second crops.

The ONSDT and the OK na BKP must take steps to correct this situation.(22)

Although TKZS members in Pomorie Okoliya were ready for the harvest, the Kableshevo MTS did not have the machines in good working condition. Only five or six of the 21 reapers operated daily. Work with combines proceeds unsatisfactorily because they are damaged. In Sarafovo, the combine reaped only 80 decarees in 5 days. Inexperienced combine drivers are often sent from the Kableshevo MTS. Tanyu Tantilov, Sarafovo TKZS chairman, has failed to organize night work with combines. In Medovo, the method of transporting grain from the combine has taken too much time. The combine driver had to take the machine to the square to unload the grain. Only five of the 49 harvesters are working. Daily production is only 10 tons.

There is still speculation throughout the whole okoliya where to pile the grain, in or out of the village. State deliveries have been meager, as they were fulfilled only 5.5 percent by 16 July. Throughout the okoliya, TKZS members, like those in the Gulubets TKZS, considered their well-being as primary and that of the state as secondary.

Sowing of forage corn, millet, and corn proceeds slowly, as does surface plowing of stubble fields.

These weaknesses are the result of poor organization and insufficient political agitation. The OK na BKP has not given sufficient assistance to the agricultural organs.(11)

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Although the number of harvesting machines in Elkhovo Okoliya is greater this year, they cannot be fully utilized because the work is so poorly organized. In addition, the MTS in Elkhovo and Bolyarovo were not ready for general threshing. In many okoliya villages, the threshers were without motors, machinists, and additional personnel. In Dobrich, the workers waited 10 days for a motor for the thresher. Private farmers in Boyanovo had their sheaves ready for 15 days, but threshing was not begun. Each day, dozens of threshers stop work for 2 or 3 hours because of repairs which had not been well done before.

The resolution of the Burgas Okrug Committee on 23 July that all threshing machines be used 24 hours a day has not been carried out.

The political organizations have not done their work well, for they were mostly occupied with administrative questions.

The lagging behind of threshing was reflected in the state grain deliveries. Private farmers have made very few deliveries, and 25 villages in Elkhovo Okoliya¹⁷ have not yet begun their deliveries. The "Zurneni khрани" DO left 450 tons of grain exposed on the platform of the Elkhovo railroad station. (6)

At the beginning of harvesting, Burgas Okoliya headed those in the okrug, but the ONSDT and the OK na BKP diminished their efforts in organizing simultaneous threshing and grain deliveries. Many difficulties have arisen from poor repair of machines and motors. About 10 machines have been damaged each day. The ONSDT and the OK na BKP have been occupied with their own work and have not kept up political agitation. Now, Burgas Okoliya is in fifth place in the okrug.

The work of local NSDT among private farmers has been very unsatisfactory. The work of the "Zurneni khрани" branch has been weak. At some points, wagons loaded with grain were not moved. Kulaks have made use of the weaknesses of the workers and leaders and have circulated rumors to the effect that the grain delivery center was not accepting grain. (23)

In Karnobat Okoliya, there are weaknesses at the receiving points for state grain deliveries. The organization of these centers is poor. For example, because of carelessness and lack of experience, the same load of grain is often inspected three or four times. Antimovo, Lozarevo, and Vulchin receiving-center directors quarreled with TKZS members who brought contaminated grain, instead of explaining to them why they should bring only good grain. In the Lozarevo and Vulchin centers, 24-hours' acceptance of grain has not been organized.

The OK na BKP and the ONSDT, as well as local organizations, must take measures for satisfactory supervision of state grain deliveries. (24)

Ruse Okrug

While the TKZS members and private farmers of Dulovo Okoliya are exerting all their efforts in behalf of the harvest, the Dulovo MTS is unprepared. Up to now, only 80 percent of the planned threshing has been completed, and many of the machines do not operate because their engines have been poorly repaired.

Yordan Ivanov Nikolov, technical director of the MTS, and I. Koev, director of the MTS, failed to provide for the adequate repair of MTS machines. I. Koev told the OK na BKP that the work done on the machines was quite adequate but admitted that many tractors and threshers needed additional work.

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Because of the poor organization, not all of the threshers worked continually. They are often idle because there is no fuel. MTS directors frequently do not know how many machines are in operation each day. (25)

The TKZS in Dulovo Okoliya are completing their harvesting with the help of 12 combines. Harvesting in Boil, Oreshene, and Vulkan has been completed for several days, and in Zaritsa, harvesting took 3 days instead of 7. In Bosna, TKZS members finished harvesting, made state grain deliveries, and also surface plowed 92 percent of the stubble fields.

Some party and administrative organs, however, have not carried out simultaneous reaping, threshing, and state grain deliveries. They did not help TKZS chairmen in the okoliya organize their work so that threshing would not lag. Only nine of the 21 threshers were in operation, but only for 2 or 3 days. The remaining machines were inactive either because of a lack of sheaves to thresh or because of a lack of engines. Due to poor repair work, some threshers were unfit for use. The thresher sent to Mezhdan was useless after being overhauled, and it was taken apart in the village, remaining so for 4 days. The thresher in Malko paisievo was not used for 2 days because of a lack of fuel.

Fifty percent of the surface plowing in the okoliya was to be completed by 21 July, but only 29.5 percent was completed.

Political and organizational weaknesses explain the lag in threshing in Dulovo Okoliya. The TKZS are not given support in their tasks, and the experiences of the best TKZS members are not disseminated to others. The Dulovo MTS chairmen was not reprimanded for the superficial work done in his MTS. (18)

The Smilets TKZS in Silistra Okoliya has ruined 15 kilograms per decare in gathering crops on a certain area.

In general, the 5,000 decare sown for winter crops will yield about 50,000 kilograms of grain, or more than half the seeds necessary for sowing.

The administrative council of the Smilets TKZS and Bayu Angelov, chairman, did not procure rakes nor organize the gathering of crops. This proves that the TKZS party organization and the OK na BKP have neglected political agitation, including group reading of newspapers.

The administrative council of the above TKZS was asked by the workers to organize the work so that both hand-drawn and horse-drawn rakes would be used.

State grain deliveries are lagging in Ruse Okrug. By 25 July, only 10.1 percent of the grain was in the state storehouses. The daily increase on 24 July was 1.9 percent because Razgrad Okoliya, in last place, had an increase of only one percent. On 24 July, 50 threshers in Razgrad Okoliya threshed about 4.4 tons. In Khlebarovo, there were five threshers, but not one of them was working on a 24-hour basis on 26 July. On 24 July, the Khlebarovo TKZS chairman, B. Stanchev, was asked by the party organization to see about light for night threshing, but on 25 July, nothing had been done. Up to 25 July, the Khlebarovo TKZS had not made any state grain deliveries. The second secretary of the Razgrad OK na BKP went to the village, but he was not there long enough to help the party organization correct the lag in harvesting and start state grain deliveries.

A similar condition existed in Dryanovets where, because of the poor work of the party organization, no state grain deliveries had been made up to 25 July. Although two threshers were available in Ezerche, private farmers were using primitive methods.

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The Razgrad OK na BKP did not give concrete help to party organizations. A. Vesilnov, first secretary of the OK, in many cases, took over the duties of the chairman of the ONSDT and abandoned party work. Stanev, secretary of the Ruse Okrug Committee of the BKP, who was sent to Razgrad, did not help him.

At this time, threshers in 38 villages in Ruse Okrug are not working because of a lack of sheaves. (6)

The Silistra ONSDT did not support TKZS members in carrying out harvesting, threshing, and state grain deliveries. While up to 25 July, the harvesting plan was fulfilled 72 percent, the combines had reaped barely 47 percent, and the binders had fulfilled their plan only 38 percent. Every day, about six or seven combines are inactive because of damage caused by careless handling. The directors of the MTS in Silistra Okoliya have not controlled the use of machinery.

The political sections and party organizations of the okoliya MTS have not attempted to create a feeling of responsibility in the workers. The Silistra OK na BKP did not take action when the schedules of the MTS were not met. On 25 July, not a single binder was in operation. Crop gathering with horse-drawn rakes was not organized, and great crop losses ensued. Antimechanization attitudes prevailed, especially with regard to binders.

Threshing is lagging in Silistra Okoliya. Of 52 threshing machines, only nine worked on 20 July and they, intermittently. On 25 July, only 33 threshers were active. Because work is poorly organized in the okoliya TKZS, some threshers worked only a few hours. In the area served by the MTS in Sitovo not a single TKZS had begun threshing by 25 July.

A large number of threshers in the okoliya have been damaged because they were previously poorly repaired.

The reason for the weaknesses is the lack of organization and political work in the okoliya. Agitators in the villages neither lead discussions nor group readings of newspapers.

State grain deliveries in the okoliya are lagging. On 25 July, the plan had been fulfilled only 13.8 percent. (26)

In Isperrikh Okoliya many combine drivers did not fulfill their plans for harvesting because some of the machines were damaged. In many villages besides Luvino, Konevo, and Podayva, combines covered only between 40 and 60 decares of land in 24 hours. Some combines were inactive since they lacked fuel. Because some schedules were not fulfilled, the okoliya MTS was late sending promised machines from one village to another.

In Isperrikh Okoliya, 34 threshers are in operation. Most of them thresh on a 24-hour basis. But, in general, threshing is not well organized and as yet, steps have not been taken to eliminate weaknesses. Threshers are sometimes inactive because private farmers have not been organized for 24-hour threshing. In places where there are no dynamos, TKZS members thresh only during the day. There is often a lack of fuel. The Isperrikh MTS has not taken measures to assure high production. Not a single thresher in the okoliya is working on an hourly schedule.

Surface plowing of stubble fields is lagging throughout the okoliya, as the plan has been fulfilled only 42 percent thus far. The 12 tractors of the Isperrikh MTS have surface plowed only 13,000 of the 41,500 decares originally planned.

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The OK has not required okoliya MTS, DZS, TKZS, and ONSDT to organize simultaneous harvesting, threshing, and surface-plowing of stubble fields. The excuse has been given that all efforts have been directed toward meeting state grain deliveries. However, up to 1 August, the delivery plan which was scheduled to be fulfilled 50 percent, was fulfilled only 25.2 percent. The absence of daily agitation and explanatory work has allowed enemies to do damage. Some workers (in the okoliya) have delivered contaminated grain. (27)

Thus far in Dulovo Okoliya, the plan for harvesting was fulfilled 97 percent; for surface plowing, 43.5 percent; and for grain deliveries, 21.4 percent. This fulfillment is far lower than was called for. Thus far, only 29.3 percent of the threshing plan was fulfilled.

The okoliya was among the first to fulfill its plans in 1951. This year, party mass organizations and ONSDT have not mobilized the workers for the fulfillment of the plans. Local NSDT have not taken measures to organize 24-hour work. Some TKZS chairmen do not know how large grain deliveries will be, nor have they prepared hourly schedules. Some TKZS chairmen do not know the condition of their farms. Many machines are allowed to remain inactive. In Mezhdan, Stancho Khristov, Vurbino, Dobrotitsa, Ruyno, Bradvari, and Chernolike, TKZS chairmen are setting a poor example in work organization.

A large number of the threshers sent from the Dulovo MTS are damaged because of poor repair work and are useless. Each day, almost 50 percent of the machines in the okoliya are inactive. The thresher in Skala threshed only 27 tons in 16 days and the thresher in Zlatoklas, 32 tons. The thresher sent to Dolets threshed only 3.5 tons in 48 hours. (28)

Stalin Okrug

Despite successes in harvesting in Balchik Okoliya, there are still many weaknesses, especially concerning the various MTS which supply poorly repaired binders and other harvesting machinery. The Shabla MTS binders have fulfilled their plan only 50 percent. They should have completed their work long ago to free the tractors for threshing and surface plowing of stubble fields.

In the okoliya, there are 115 combines to reap and thresh over 50 percent of the planted area, but they have not been exploited fully. The Kavarna MTS has 20 combines. Up to now, their maximum daily average output has been 122 decares, although the schedule calls for 160. The main reason for failure to fulfill the plan is that many TKZS administrative councils do not service their machinery well. Often, grain is left in trucks and wagons at receiving points. The workers begin to work late and stop early. The Krapets TKZS chairman did not allot workers and trucks for loading grain during the night. Slavi Donev and Andrey Irmanov, director and political organization chairman, respectively, of the Kavarna MTS did not have effective control over combine work, nor did they take care of organizational and technical difficulties.

Balchik Okoliya is seriously lagging behind in threshing. At present, only 11 percent of all crops has been threshed, and this chiefly with combines. Generally speaking, the TKZS in the okoliya have been successful with their reaping but have been late in threshing. This applies especially to the TKZS in Rogachevo, Blatnitsa, Rakovski, and the two TKZS in Shabla.

General threshing is proceeding slowly. On 17 July, only seven of 173 threshers were working; on 18 July, 12; and on 19 July, 22. The Shabla MTS completed the harvest on its assigned area in one week, but only five of the 22 threshers were operating. Poor leadership is the main reason for the difficulties. The Balchik OK na BKP and Todor Stoychev, its secretary, as well as the executive committee of the ONSDT and Trendafil Trunulov, its chairman, were aware of the situation but have taken no measures to correct it. (29)

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Harvesting in Tolbukhin Okoliya is almost fully mechanized. During the spring, 117 Soviet-made combines worked on TKZS and DZS. Despite excellent Soviet technical assistance and a good supply of reapers and binders, the okoliya is in last place in Stalin Okrug. By 23 July, the plan for harvesting was fulfilled only 52 percent; the plan for surface plowing of stubble fields, 7 percent; and the plan for second crop sowing, 12 percent.

Machinery is not being fully utilized. On 21 and 22 July, only 80 of the 117 combines were being used. The directors of the TKZS and MTS in Tolbukhin Okoliya said that the corn was green. Some corn areas were not ready for the harvest because of unripe corn, but this was no obstacle to general harvesting with combines. Another reason for the slow harvest is that the combines are not achieving daily norms, despite the broad, even fields in the area. No combine from the okoliya has worked 24 hours daily, and none worked according to an hourly schedule. Technical help by the MTS for the TKZS is negligible and not on time. The combine in the Opanets TKZS from the Stozher MTS was inactive for 2 days because three lathes in the straw elevator broke. With proper technical assistance, the repairs could have been made in 3 hours.

To show the extent to which technical aid is undervalued, the director of the Krushari MTS released three rayon mechanics to become tractor drivers. In this MTS, mobile repair workers never have night duty to speed up the repair of machinery.

Binders of the Krushari MTS have not been fully utilized, having fulfilled only 22 percent of their plan. They will need 94 days to fulfill the plan at their present speed. The MTS director has allowed inexperienced people to operate the machines.

On 22 July, only 30 of the 153 threshers in the okoliya were working, only three of these on a 24-hour basis, and not one on an hourly schedule. Instead of coordinating the harvesting, threshing, and sowing of second crops, the TKZS members in Stefanovo began gathering the harvest in fields assigned to combines.

In their haste to work quickly, many okoliya MTS do not watch the quality of their work. In Stozher and Leskovo, 10-15 percent of the grain is spilled, and in Kozloduytsi and Dolina the combines fail to do a complete job of harvesting.

The ONSDT and OK na BKP are responsible for the lag in harvesting and threshing, for the failure to utilize available machinery, as well as for the lag in state grain deliveries.(30)

The majority of TKZS in Balchik Okoliya are lagging with their grain deliveries. Up to 27 July, the okoliya had fulfilled its plan only 23 percent. The villages of the Blatnitsa region have fulfilled their plan for state grain deliveries only 16 percent. This region was the first in the Okoliya to have completed harvesting, but the grain delivery was not organized. K. Kurtev, chairman of the ONSDT; V. Dimitrov, instructor from the OK na BKP; and G. Vasiliev, inspector from the ONSDT, did not fully realize the importance of their duties. They did not support the administrative councils of the TKZS as regards simultaneous harvesting, threshing, and state grain deliveries. Although in one village, there were 20 pairs of oxen, the chairman of the local TKZS felt that there were no means of transporting the grain earmarked for delivery to the state. In the Belgun, Balchik, and Sokolovo areas, grain deliveries were very slow.(15)

Because of poor organization in Stalin Okrug, the combines and threshers did not operate well. On 28 July, only 217 threshers and 74 combines in the Okrug were in operation.(7)

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By 9 August, the plan for state grain deliveries in Stalin Okrug was fulfilled only 66 percent. In the last few days, the speed with which the grain was delivered has diminished. This is because the party organizations and NSDT kept their attention focused on TKZS and DZS members and ignored private farmers, who began threshing and making state grain deliveries late.

Tervel and Stalin okoliya deliveries are lagging. In Tervel, because of poor party political work and poor organization, full use was not made of available threshers.

A worse situation exists in Stalin Okoliya, where the harvesting was recently completed. Because of poorly repaired machinery, 15-20 threshers were inactive each day. Only recently did the OK na BKP and ONSDT take steps to explain threshing on a 24-hour basis, but the work is still hindered by frequent breakdowns of machines.

The lag in threshing results in a lag in state grain deliveries. The lack of sufficient machines has been felt sharply in Stalin and Provadiya okoliyas. Farmers have had to resort to threshing with flails.

Control must be exerted over the work of MTS, and 24-hour threshing through correct organization of machines must be secured to achieve maximum results.(31)

Growth of trees lags in Burgas, Khaskovo, Blagoevgrad, and Sofia okrugs. The administrations in these okrugs must support party, youth, OF, and other mass organizations, which will in turn support DZS and TKZS members.(32)

Despite successes in harvesting, threshing, surface plowing, and state grain deliveries, there are some failures because of incomplete use of available machinery. In Stalin Okrug, the average daily increase of combine harvesting for 5 days was 3.5 percent; for threshing, 1.8 percent; and for surface plowing, 2.2 percent. Burgas and Kolarovgrad okrugs are also lagging.

The main reason for the unsatisfactory work of combines, tractors, and especially threshers is that directors, party, and political organizations of the MTS and the NSDT have not organized 24-hour work on an hourly schedule. Moreover, political agitation among the TKZS members and private farmers was neglected.

Threshing with flails is still going on in Yambol, Stara Zagora, Sliven, and other okoliyas because of antimechanization tendencies. Burgas Okrug has fulfilled its plan for threshing only 15.1 percent, and on 28 July, only 141 threshers were operating.(7)

The chairmen of the MTS in Turnovo and Ruse okrugs are not exploiting their machines to the utmost, for up to now, they have contracted for only one fourth of the planned area. Evidently, party and state leaders have not exercised control over the work of the MTS.

For 3 years in Stara Zagora Okrug, harvesting has been done according to primitive methods, with horses, which resulted in the ruin of much grain. Party organizations have not taken enough steps to explain that the old method of threshing is damaging.

In Sofia and Burgas okrugs, machinery has not been used to the utmost, and farmers have threshed with flails despite the fact that there are plenty of threshers. Very few threshers work on a 24-hour basis with an hourly schedule. Sofia Okrug is lagging especially, for the plan for threshing has been fulfilled only 30.7 percent thus far.(33)

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TWO-MONTH CRITICISM OF IRRIGATION

The Purvomay Okoliya Irrigation System has put in operation many pumping stations on both the right and left banks of the Maritsa River. During this year, it was planned to irrigate 47,196 decares of land in Purvomay Okoliya, 5,115 in Chirpan Okoliya, and 6,870 in Khaskovo Okoliya, which are okoliyas with vital crops such as rice, vegetables, cotton, sugar beets, and lucerne.

The TKZS chairmen in the regions served by the "Yagoda" Water Syndicate have not taken measures to see that the system is used to the utmost. As a consequence, in Purvomay Okoliya, only 13,860 decars have been irrigated; in Chirpan, 2,410 decares; and in Khaskovo, 4,847.

Purvomay Okoliya is especially lagging. The TKZS chairmen did not organize the work so that temporary irrigation canals could be completed and so that the waters of the Maritsa River could be used at the same time for sugar beets, cotton, sunflowers, and lucerne; and when the water diminished, for rice, vegetables, and other crops.

A typical example of the attitude toward the syndicate is that of Atanas D. Angelov, TKZS chairman in Purvomay Okoliya, who had an irrigation system capable of taking care of 9,956 decares but who had organized so poorly that only 1,000 decares were irrigated. Todor Iliev, Debur TKZS chairman, had a contract for the irrigation of 5,905 decares, but only 1,200 decares were irrigated. Georgi Grozev, Karadzhalovo TKZS chairman, had concluded a contract for 6,014 decares, but the TKZS was unable to irrigate even 2,000 decares because the canals were not completed. Night irrigation of fields was not employed here.

Up to now, 24-hour irrigation has not been organized in Purvomay Okoliya. Many TKZS chairmen do not want to conclude contracts for irrigating second crops.

Irrigation was not treated seriously by the agricultural department of the ONSDT in Purvomay. Local agricultural specialists did not concern themselves with irrigation, although the crops were suffering from the drought. Nayden Dimitrov, chief of the rural economy division in Purvomay, and Rayko Manolov, the person responsible for irrigation, did not see to it that TKZS chairmen took irrigation seriously.

There are many weaknesses in the work of the "Yagoda" Water Syndicate, headed by Papazov. Because some TKZS did not pay for their water, Papazov stopped the flow of water for several days without realizing that it was ruining the economy of the TKZS. Thus far, no plan has been worked out for irrigating the TKZS, now that the water level of the Maritsa River has gone down, and all farms cannot be irrigated at the same time.

The ONSDT and the OK na BKP have not taken proper measures to destroy the unwholesome attitudes of the TKZS chairmen and to assure 24-hour irrigation. (29)

The first half of the Cherven bryag irrigation system was recently put in operation. The water repository of the canal begins about 600 meters above Reselets and ends in the fields of Dolni lukovit. Irrigation of the fields of Reselets, Gornik, Cherven bryag, Chomakovtsi, Koynare, Glava brenitsa, and Dolni lukovit will be taken care of by the main irrigation canal, which has a capacity of 2,000 liters a second. The second major canal, which takes water to the "Koynare" power station and has a capacity of 2,500 liters a second, begins in the Koynare pole (field). It irrigates the fields in Koynare and Glava. Over 100,000 decares will be irrigated and will prevent a possible drought. (34)

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The Cherven bryag irrigation system is in poor working condition and has fulfilled its plan only 12.4 percent thus far. The blame lies with the "Vodostroy" (Hydrotechnical Construction) DSP (Durzhavno stroitelno predpriyatie, State Construction Enterprise), the "Stalin" Water Syndicate, and with local NSDT. The plan for irrigating cotton fields is fulfilled 1.73 percent; cornfields, 4 percent; and sugar-beet fields, 7.2 percent. In the villages of Reselets, Gornik, Koynare, and Chomakovtsi, the plans for irrigation are seriously lagging. (16)

Of the 10,000 decarees under cultivation in July in Vratsa Okoliya, only 2,000 were irrigated. In Karash, only 100 decarees were irrigated, while the plan called for 1,078 decarees. The local water syndicate did not supply hoses for the pumps.

The chairmen of the Lilyache TKZS refused to organize irrigation. This is true in other villages along the Iskur River, where water is abundant. (7)

Many administrative councils of okrug and okoliya committees underestimate the value of irrigation in agriculture. The Maritsa River is an example of poor exploitation of irrigation possibilities. The waters go into the canals, make a long and unnecessary trip, and return to the river without irrigating the fields.

The lack of schedules for planned irrigation results in serious lags. In Vratsa Okrug, at present, the plan for irrigation is fulfilled only 24 percent, in Khaskovo Okrug, 38 percent; in Plovdiv Okrug, 63 percent; in Stalin Okrug, 9.8 percent; in Pleven Okrug, 63 percent; in the Durshlyan irrigation system, only 6 percent; in the Belene system, 34 percent; and in the Rositsa system, 60 percent.

Preparations for fulfillment of the irrigation plans have been poorly planned by TKZS and DZS members in the above areas, as no persons have been designated to see that irrigation plans are fulfilled.

Too little attention was paid in southern Bulgaria to proper preparation of sprinklers, water dividers, and water drainage. In Pazardzhik and Plovdiv okoliyas, the TKZS which are located near the beginning of the main canal irrigate their fields and water their roads wastefully without taking account of the fact that other TKZS located farther down the canal will thus obtain no water.

ONSDT are responsible for the nonfulfillment of irrigation plans. (16)

In Ruse Okrug, the possibilities for irrigation of cultivated areas have not been fully exploited. The chief reason is that "Vodno Stopanstvo" (Water Economy Enterprise) has not organized its work. On the other hand, some TKZS chairmen do not understand the advantages of irrigation and do not prepare the areas for irrigation. (33)

The cotton fields along the right irrigation canal of the "Rositsa" Water Syndicate in Pavlikeni Okoliya have been neglected, and TKZS members in Stambolovo, Lesicheri, Resen, and Polikraishte did not use the water when it was most abundant. (21)

The Kamchiya, Vranja, Cherni lom, and Kaspichan rivers flow through the fields of Kolarovgrad Okrug, but during the hot summer days, the crops suffered. During the past year, almost 20,000 decarees, chiefly planted with vegetables, were irrigated here. Exploration during the past year revealed that there was sufficient water in the okrug to save 150,000 decarees from drought.

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Under the guidance of the party and the NSDT in the okrug, special studies or a broad irrigation system were begun. The construction of 11 pumping stations, one small dam, and 40 pipes to be driven into the ground for pumping water has also begun.

In Kolarovgrad and Turgovishte okoliyas, several thousands of acres have been irrigated by TKZS members working with state funds and equipment. Of the 40 pipes planned, 34 have been completed. Construction of the first small dam in the okrug was begun in Markovcha, Novi Pazar Okoliya. It will have a capacity of 150,000 cubic meters of water per second. It will also be used for fish breeding, poultry raising, and for irrigating 700 decarees.

The irrigation system in Preslav Okoliya is ready. When it begins to operate, over 3,500 decarees of land of TKZS in Tsar Krum, Osmar, and Troitsa will be irrigated.

However, in some villages, the advantages of irrigation have not been appreciated. The TKZS members have not been told that they would receive two or three times higher yields through irrigation. In some villages in Popovo Okoliya, wells in the immediate vicinity of the fields are not being used. The waters of three DSZ wells near Svetlen in Popovo okoliya are not being used. This is also the case in Probuda in Turgovishte Okoliya, Ivanski in Kolarovgrad Okoliya, and Kochovo in Preslav Okoliya. (13)

In Chirpan Okoliya, irrigation measures have been taken to combat the drought threatening 24,000 decarees planted with vital crops. (35)

In the Brushlyan irrigation system, there are difficulties because some TKZS leaders have not realized the value of cultivating and irrigating vital crops like cotton, strawberries, sugar beets, and tobacco.

The organization of the "Dunav" (Danube) irrigation system is still not good, and reorganization is necessary throughout the whole system. Much of the system has still not been completed because of poorly built equipment.

The supply of power from the Ruse substation is insufficient. During some hours ^{in the summer}, the stations discharge only 500 or 1,000 kilowatts, which stops one or more pumps and deprives some villages of water.

The irrigation of cotton, beet, and corn fields conflicts with gathering the harvest. Okrug NSDT and ONSDT representatives responsible for harvesting had not received any instructions as regards irrigation. They saw the withered spring crops around them, but passed them by with indifference, as they were only concerned with state grain deliveries. (36)

Irrigation of land burned by drought is being carried on in Plovdiv Okoliya. (37)

The following map indicates the agricultural shortcomings in Bulgarian (okoliyas and okrugs) mentioned above. The map shows Bulgarian okoliya and okrug administrative divisions as amended according to a decree published in Izvestiya, on 2 January 1952 (see 00-W-19441). The place names on the map all of which are either okoliya centers or okoliya and okrug centers, are according to the place names listed in an article in Rabotnichesko Delo, 2 October 1952. Former place names appear in parentheses. It should be noted that Dimitrovgrad (formerly Rakovski) is listed as the center of a newly established okoliya in Khaskovo Okrug.

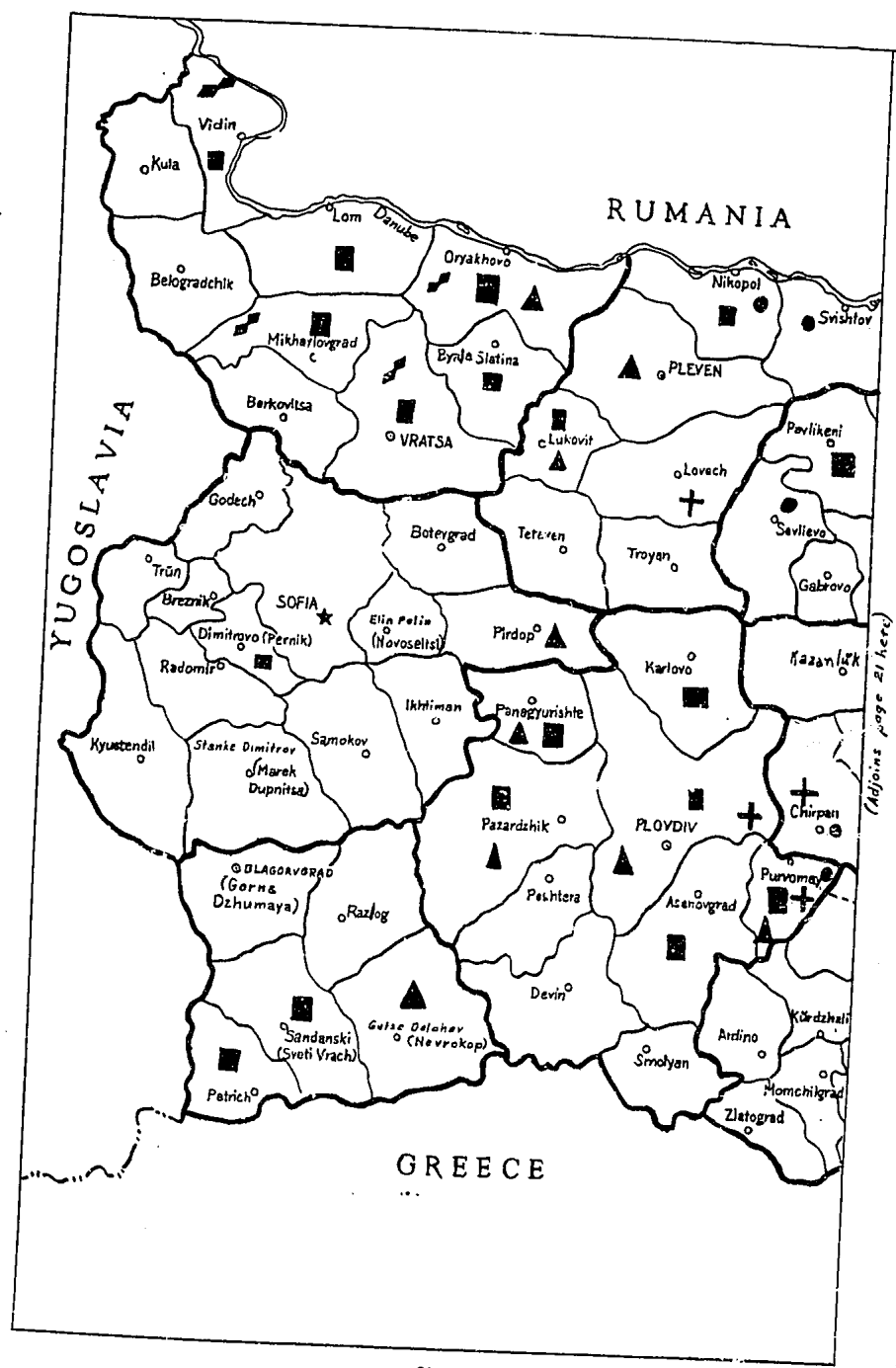
Okoliyas are named after okoliya centers, which are written in capitals and lower case. Okrugs are named after okrug centers, which are also okoliya centers and are written in capital letters.

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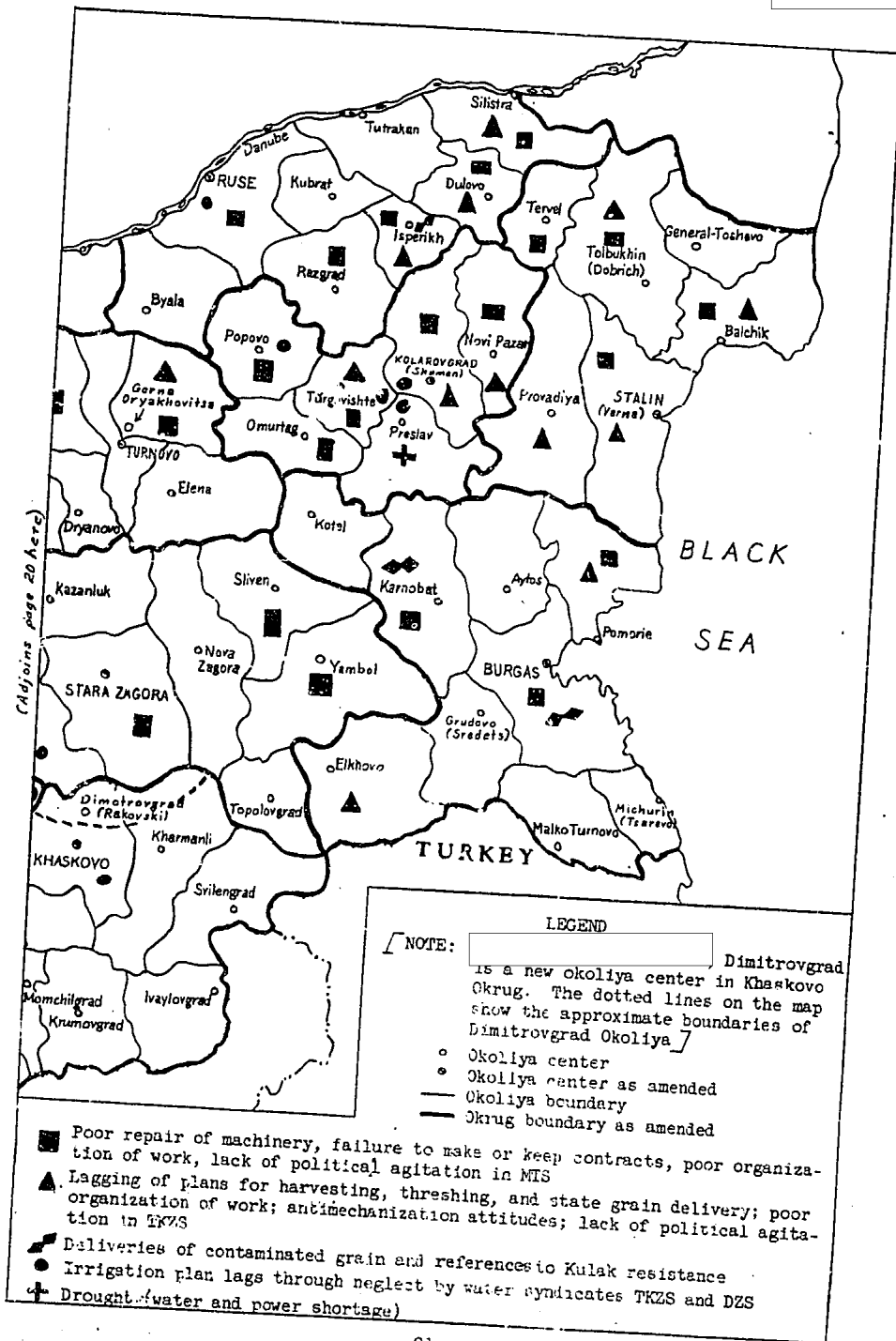


(Adjoins page 21 here)

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SOURCES

1. Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 1 Jul 52
2. Ibid., 5 Jul 52
3. Ibid., 10 Jul 52
4. Ibid., 3 Aug 52
5. Ibid., 6 Jul 52
6. Ibid., 28 Jul 52
7. Ibid., 1 Aug 52
8. Ibid., 25 Aug 52
9. Ibid., 9 Jul 52
10. Ibid., 14 Jul 52
11. Ibid., 20 Jul 52
12. Ibid., 4 Aug 52
13. Ibid., 17 Aug 52
14. Ibid., 7 Jul 52
15. Ibid., 31 Jul 52
16. Ibid., 5 Aug 52
17. Ibid., 8 Jul 52
18. Ibid., 26 Jul 52
19. Sofia, Vecherni Novini, 13 Aug 52
20. Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 30 Jul 52
21. Ibid., 16 Aug 52
22. Ibid., 15 Jul 52
23. Ibid., 11 Aug 52
24. Ibid., 19 Aug 52
25. Ibid., 16 Jul 52
26. Ibid., 29 Jul 52
27. Ibid., 6 Aug 52
28. Ibid., 7 Aug 52
29. Ibid., 24 Jul 52

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30. Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 27 Jul 52
31. Ibid., 12 Aug 52
32. Ibid., 21 Jul 52
33. Ibid., 14 Aug 52
34. Ibid., 25 Jul 52
35. Ibid., 23 Aug 52
36. Ibid., 24 Aug 52
37. Ibid., 28 Aug 52

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